

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 029295
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /013 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/WE/HECOLE:CM

APPROVED BY EUR/WE/EJBEIGEL

-----033227 031742Z /47

O 031733Z PEB 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 029295

FOR MR. ROWELL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, SOPN, SEDU, IT, XT

SUBJECT: JOINT CABLE TO PRESIDENT ON ICA BUDGET

FOLLOWING IS A REPEAT QUOTE R21240Z DEC 77 FM AMEMBASSY
ROME, TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE, INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
IMMEDIATE, AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS, IMMEDIATE, AMEMBASSY LONDON
IMMEDIATE, AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE, USMISSION USNATO
IMMEDIATE. 1. REQUEST DEPARTMENT PASS IMMEDIATELY TO
THE WHITE HOUSE TEXT OF FOLLOWING JOINT CABLE FROM UNDER-
SIGNED AMBASSADORS.

2. BEGIN TEXT DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: THE UNDERSIGNED, YOUR
AMBASSADORS TO FRANCE, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY,
ITALY, THE UNITED KINGDOM, NATO AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNI-
TIES MET RECENTLY TO DISCUSS THE PRESENT STATE OF UNITED
STATES-EUROPEAN RELATIONS. WHILE WE DISCUSSED A NUMBER OF
ISSUES, THE PURPOSE OF THIS JOINT CABLE IS TO PRESENT A
RECOMMENDATION WHICH HAS SPECIAL URGENCY.

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IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT YOU WILL BE MEETING ON
DECEMBER 6 WITH THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF OMB TO CONSIDER
THE FY 1979 BUDGET LEVEL FOR THE NEW INTERNATIONAL COMMUNI-
CATION AGENCY. IT IS OUR UNANIMOUS VIEW, FOR THE REASONS
SUGGESTED BELOW, THAT THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE NEW

AGENCY IS MUCH TOO LOW TO PERMIT THE KIND OF INFORMATION AND CULTURAL PROGRAMS WHICH ARE NEEDED TO SUPPORT THE U.S. NATIONAL INTEREST IN EUROPE.

IF WE ARE TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN GAINING SUPPORT FOR YOUR POLICIES IN EUROPE AND OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD, IT IS NOT ENOUGH MERELY TO PERSUADE THE GOVERNMENTS TO WHICH WE ARE ACCREDITED THAT THE COURSES OF ACTION WE PROPOSE ARE WISE AND JUST. WE MUST ALSO ENGAGE THE SYMPATHIES OF YOUNG EUROPEANS, PARTICULARLY YOUNGER POLITICIANS, OFFICIALS, TEACHERS, WRITERS AND JOURNALISTS WHO ARE MOVING INTO POSITIONS OF INFLUENCE AND LEADERSHIP. THEY HAVE NO FIRSTHAND KNOWLEDGE OF WW11. MOREOVER, MANY OF THEM CAME OF AGE DURING THE VIETNAM AND WATERGATE ERAS AND ARE BURDENED BY A VIEW OF OUR COUNTRY WHICH BEARS LITTLE RESEMBLANCE TO THE REAL AMERICA, AND CERTAINLY NOT TO THE KIND OF SOCIETY YOUR ADMINISTRATION IS STRIVING TO BUILD. OUR EUROPEAN EMBASSIES ARE MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO PROVIDE THESE YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN THE INFORMATION AND THE CULTURAL EXPERIENCES WHICH WILL ENABLE THEM TO FORM A MORE ACCURATE APPRECIATION OF OUR COUNTRY, BUT THE MEANS AT OUR DISPOSAL ARE INADEQUATE.

IT IS IRONIC THAT FOR OVER TWO DECADES OUR EUROPEAN INFORMATION AND CULTURAL EFFORTS HAVE BEEN CUT BACK WHILE OUR POLITICAL, MILITARY AND ECONOMIC INTERESTS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SHOULD HAVE DICTATED THAT THEY BE STRENGTHENED. WHEN ONE CONSIDERS THAT DURING THIS SAME PERIOD THE SOVIET UNION AND THE COUNTRIES OF EASTERN EUROPE HAVE GREATLY EXPANDED THEIR OWN WESTERN EUROPEAN PROGRAMS, THE WISDOM OF THESE REDUCTIONS BECOMES EVEN MORE QUESTIONABLE, AND THE NEED TO REVERSE THE TREND MORE URGENT. AN INCREASE IN THE EUROPEAN PROGRAMS WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH THE UNITED STATES' COMMITMENT TO THE DEFENSE OF WESTERN EUROPE AND THE ADMINISTRATION'S VIEW THAT THAT COMMITMENT IS AT THE CENTER OF OUR FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICIES.

WE THUS CONCLUDE AND STRONGLY URGE THAT OUR INFORMATION AND CULTURAL PROGRAMS, PARTICULARLY THOSE IN ITALY, FRANCE AND THE FRG, BE SHARPLY INCREASED. WHILE WE CANNOT SPEAK FOR YOUR AMBASSADORS IN OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, WE BELIEVE THEY WOULD ALSO SUPPORT THIS PLEA.

WE BELIEVE THAT THE CREATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION AGENCY PROVIDES THE ADMINISTRATION AN OPPORTUNITY TO APPEAL TO THE CONGRESS FOR THE INCREASE IN FUNDING THAT IS REQUIRED TO DO THE JOB AS IT SHOULD

BE DONE.

THE AGENCY'S PRESENT BUDGET IN CONSTANT DOLLARS IS ONLY SLIGHTLY LARGER TODAY THAN WHEN USIA WAS FOUNDED IN 1954, AND SUBSTANTIALLY LESS THAN IT WAS TEN YEARS AGO. TO DO AN EFFECTIVE, IMAGINATIVE JOB OF EXPLAINING AMERICAN SOCIETY AND THE ADMINISTRATION'S POLICIES WILL REQUIRE CONSIDERABLY MORE. FOR EUROPE ALONE IT WOULD TAKE SOMETHING ON THE ORDER OF \$28 MILLION TO BRING THE AGENCY UP TO THE FUNDING LEVELS THAT ARE REQUIRED TO GIVE US THE PROGRAMS WE NEED TODAY. THE BULK OF THE ADDITIONAL MONEY WOULD BE SPENT ON PROGRAMS, NOT ON BUREAUCRATIC OVERHEAD. SOME INCREASE IN THE BADLY DEPLETED USIA STAFFS WOULD HAVE TO OCCUR--HOPEFULLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THROUGH A SHIFT OF WASHINGTON-BASED OFFICER PERSONNEL TO THE FIELD. MOST OF THE MONEY, HOWEVER, WOULD GO TO FUND GREATLY ENHANCED INFORMATION EFFORTS IN THE PRESS AND OTHER MEDIA AREAS, AS WELL AS A MORE AMBITIOUS EXCHANGE OF PERSONS PROGRAM AND MORE INTENSIVE ACADEMIC AND STUDENT PROGRAMS, INCLUDING ENGLISH TEACHING IN AREAS WHERE APPROPRIATE.

KINGMAN BREWSTER, WHO REPRESENTS YOU IN A COUNTRY WHICH SHARES OUR LANGUAGE AND, TO AN APPRECIABLE DEGREE, OUR CULTURE AS WELL, BELIEVES THAT HIS OWN PRESENT RESOURCES ARE MORE THAN ADEQUATE AND COULD BE REDUCED. HE NEVERTHELESS SHARES OUR VIEW THAT IT IS CRUCIAL THAT WE IMPROVE OUR ABILITY TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN OF CONTINENTAL EUROPE WHO ARE ALREADY MOVING INTO POSITIONS FROM WHICH THEY ARE ABLE TO INFLUENCE THE ATTITUDES OF PEOPLES AND GOVERNMENTS TOWARD US AND OUR GOALS. RESPECTFULLY, W. TAPLEY BENNET, JR. KINGMAN BREWSTER, RICHARD M. GARDNER, ARTHUR A. HARTMAN, DEANE R. HINTON, WALTER J. STOESSEL, JR. END TEXT. GARDNER VANCE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, SOPN, SEDU, IT, XT

SUBJECT: JOINT CABLE TO PRESIDENT ON ICA BUDGET

FOLLOWING IS A REPEAT QUOTE R21240Z DEC 77 FM AMEMBASSY ROME, TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE, INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE, AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS, IMMEDIATE, AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE, AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE, USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE. 1. REQUEST DEPARTMENT PASS IMMEDIATELY TO THE WHITE HOUSE TEXT OF FOLLOWING JOINT CABLE FROM UNDER-SIGNED AMBASSADORS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Copy: <CONCATENATED>
Draft Date: 03 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3454651
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 970827
Subject: JOINT CABLE TO PRESIDENT ON ICA BUDGET FOLLOWING IS A REPEAT QUOTE R21240Z DEC 77 FM AMEMBASSY ROME, TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE, INFO AMEMBASSY
TAGS: SCUL, SEDU, SOPN, IT, XT, SEDU, SOPN
To: LISBON
Type: TE
vdkgvgwkey: odbcr://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3b429cce-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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